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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE VITTED TATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:
YUICHI HIGUCHI, et al.

Examiner: D. Tran

DEC 3 0 2003

Application No.: 08/909,966

Group Art Unit: 2624

TC 2600

Filed: August 12, 1997

For: PRINTING APPARATUS AND

ITS CONTROL METHOD

December 19, 2003

RECEIVED

DEC 3 0 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Japan 7-225661, which is listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of Japan 7-225661 is enclosed. Also, an English-language abstract for Japan 7-225661 has been located and is enclosed.

Japan 7-225661 was cited in an Office Action for a Japanese application corresponding to the above-identified application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, which is dated October 6, 2003, is enclosed.

In view of the date of the Japanese Office Action, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that the document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This application has received an Office Action on the merits but has not yet received either a final action or a Notice Of Allowance. Accordingly, this Information

Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). In view of the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) made above, consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. <u>50,957</u>

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10112-2200 Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)			ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO.			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) PEC 2 2 2003 *EXAMINER DOCUMENT			00862.001922 08/909,966			
			APPLICANT YUICHI HIGUCHI, et al.			
			August 12, 1997		GROUP 2624	
TRACE WAY U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
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	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	7-225661	8/22/95	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
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EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1